Mountain Weather Forecast

Northwest Highlands

Including Sutherland, Ben Wyvis, Wester Ross, The Cuillin, Glen Affric, Glen Shiel and Knoydart
Forecast valid from 00:00 on Saturday 29 Jan 2022 until 23:59 on Sunday 30 Jan 2022

Forecast Issued on Friday 28 Jan 2022 at 12:06 by Met Office Aberdeen

Confidence: High for windy and changeable conditions through the period. The main uncertainty relates to Sunday when snowfall may be much more extensive than recent weeks.

Headline for Saturday 29 Jan 2022: Storm force winds and heavy snow showers. Bitterly cold.

Mountain weather hazards on Saturday 29 Jan 2022

Blizzards
Low Likelihood

Heavy persistent snow
Low Likelihood

Storm force winds
Medium Likelihood

Gales
High Likelihood

Severe chill effect
High Likelihood

Poor visibility
Medium Likelihood

Thunderstorms
No Likelihood

Heavy persistent rain
Low Likelihood

Strong sunlight
No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m							
Time							
00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Heavy Rain	Heavy Rain	Sleet	Heavy snow	Heavy snow showers	Heavy snow showers	Light snow showers (night)	Light snow showers (night)
Precipitation probability							
90%	90%	70%	80%	70%	70%	60%	40%

Forecast for Saturday 29 Jan 2022

Weather: Persistent and heavy rain will ease through the early hours. A band of rain, sleet and summit snow will sink southeast across all ranges from dawn, this soon clearing to markedly colder conditions with snow and hail showers following. Some brighter spells in between these before showers fade into the evening.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 10%, improving 50% by mid morning.

Low cloud and visibility: Cloud will be relatively extensive above 500m from dawn, this combined with heavy snow and storm force winds will lead to blizzards and almost no visibility at height. Snow showers later in the day will bring similar conditions but more transient in nature. Some areas of cloud will likely be persistent above 700m.

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
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Met Office Mountain Weather Forecast

Forecast for Saturday 29 Jan 2022

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)					Wind Direction (blowing from)			
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1000	50/62 SW	52/66 SW	70/87 SW	64/81 NW	52/66 NW	41/52 NW	33/42 NW	25/32 NW	18/24 NW
900	46/59 SW	49/62 SW	66/84 SW	61/79 NW	49/63 NW	38/49 NW	31/40 NW	24/31 NW	18/24 NW
600	34/46 SW	36/49 SW	47/65 SW	44/61 NW	35/49 NW	27/37 NW	22/31 NW	15/23 NW	10/16 W
300	7/41 SW	7/45 SW	14/63 SW	19/65 NW	14/52 NW	11/40 NW	9/31 NW	6/23 NW	4/19 NW
Glen	20/41 SW	24/47 SW	30/60 SW	30/57 W	26/47 W	17/34 NW	13/27 NW	9/21 NW	7/15 NW

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)								
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1000	5/-3	4/-4	3/-7	-2/-13	-3/-14	-3/-13	-3/-12	-3/-11	-3/-10
900	5/-2	5/-3	4/-6	-1/-11	-2/-13	-2/-11	-2/-11	-2/-10	-2/-9
600	7/1	6/0	6/-1	2/-7	1/-8	1/-7	0/-7	0/-5	0/-4
300	8/6	7/6	8/5	4/-1	3/-1	3/-1	3/-1	2/-1	2/-0
Glen	10/6	9/5	10/6	7/1	6/1	6/2	6/2	5/2	5/2
Freezing Level*	2600m	2500m	1500m	800m	500m	600m	500m	500m	400m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Met Office Aberdeen Meteorologist's View

A return to winter conditions in the hills as heavy snow showers pass through. The strength of the winds will lead to dangerous conditions with progress severely hampered and energy sapping even on lower slopes.

Forecast for Sunday 30 Jan 2022

Weather: Clear spells will lead to a frost in the glens before cloud quickly thickens from the west by dawn. Whilst the details of the forecast are still uncertain, in particular the extent of snowfall and strength of the winds, periods of heavy snow look likely as well as blizzard conditions.

Maximum wind: Uncertain, but most likely South 20-30mph through daylight and West or Northwest 40-60mph later.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 30% until mid morning then no chance.

Low cloud and visibility: Limited chance of any cloud breaks with visibility largely dominated by heavy snow and rain or sleet to lowest levels. Extensive cloud increasingly shrouding most slopes above 300-400m.

Temperature: **Glens:** Plus 3 or 4 Celsius rising to 5 or 6 Celsius.
At 800m: Minus 3 Celsius.
Freezing level: 400-600m, perhaps rising towards munro level briefly through afternoon.

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